

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 1. (Currently amended): A disk control system that receives a process
2 command for writing or reading of data from an information processing device, and performs a
3 write or read process of data with respect to a logical device corresponding to a logical unit
4 specified by said process command, comprising:
5 means for managing, at least one logical device, said logical device being a
6 logical storage region that has been set in a storage region provided by a disk drive;
7 means for storing a correspondence between said logical device and at least one
8 logical unit, said logical unit being a storage region that has been set logically;
9 means for assigning, when a first process command has been received for a first
10 logical unit to which no logical device has been assigned to said first logical unit and said first
11 process command requires performing a process with a logical device, a first logical device to
12 said first logical unit and for performing processing with regard to said first logical device; and
13 means for responding to said information processing device, when a second
14 process command that does not cause an input/output process with regard to a second logical
15 device has been received from said information processing device, by performing said second
16 process command without performing said logical device assignment.
2. (Canceled)

1 3. (Previously presented): A disk control system according to claim 1,
2 further comprising:
3 means for assigning a plurality of said logical devices to one of said logical units;
4 and
5 means for assigning to that logical unit only a number of said logical devices that
6 is necessary in order to perform the processing corresponding to said first process command.

1 4. (Previously presented): A disk control system according to claim 1,
2 further comprising:
3 means for sending to said information processing device a message indicating that
4 said first process command cannot be processed, if there is no logical device that can be assigned
5 to said logical unit.

1 5. (Previously presented): A disk control system according to claim 1,
2 further comprising:
3 means for sending to said information processing device a message indicating that
4 reading is impossible.

1 6. (Original): A disk control system according to claim 1, wherein said
2 information processing device is an open system computer.

1 7. (Previously presented): A disk control system according to claim 1,
2 wherein said first and second process commands of the disk control system are SCSI commands.

8 and 9. (Canceled)

1 10. (Currently amended): A control method for a disk control system that
2 manages, logical devices, which are logical storage regions that have been set in a storage region
3 provided by a disk drive, that stores a correspondence between said logical devices and a
4 plurality of logical units, said logical units being storage regions that have been set logically, that
5 receives a process command that has been sent from an information processing device, and that
6 performs processing with regard to a logical device corresponding to the logical unit specified by
7 said process command, the control method comprising:

8 a first step of receiving a first process command for a first logical unit;
9 a second step of determining whether a first logical device has been assigned to
10 said first logical unit; and

11 if in said second step a first logical device is assigned to said first logical unit, a
12 third step of performing with regard to said first logical device said first process command, and,
13 if in said second step no logical device is assigned to said first logical unit and said first process
14 command causes an input/output process with regard to first said logical device, then assigning a
15 logical device to said first logical unit and performing with regard to said first logical device said
16 first process command;

17 a fourth step of receiving a second process command for a second logical unit;

18 a fifth step of determining whether a second logical device has been assigned to
19 said second logical unit; and

20 if no logical device has been assigned to said second logical unit and said second
21 process command is a command that does not cause an input/output process with regard to
22 second said logical device, then performing second process command without assigning a logical
23 device to said second logical unit.

1 11. (Previously presented): A control method for a disk control system that
2 manages, as units, logical devices, which are logical storage regions that have been set in a
3 storage region provided by a disk drive, that stores a correspondence between said logical
4 devices and logical units, said logical units being storage regions that have been set logically,

5 that receives a process command that has been sent from an information processing device, and
6 that performs processing with respect to a logical device corresponding to the logical unit
7 specified by that process command, the control method comprising, when a process command
8 has been received for a logical unit:

9 if a logical device has been assigned to ~~that~~said logical unit, performing with
10 regard to ~~that~~said logical device a process corresponding to ~~that~~said process command;

11 if no logical device has been assigned to said ~~that~~-logical unit and said ~~that~~
12 process command is a command that does not cause a process with regard to said logical device,
13 performing a process corresponding to said ~~that~~-process command without assigning a logical
14 device to said ~~that~~-logical unit; and

15 if no logical device has been assigned to said ~~that~~-logical unit and said ~~that~~
16 process command is a command that causes a process with regard to said logical device,
17 assigning a logical device to said logical unit and performing with regard to said ~~that~~-logical
18 device a process corresponding to said ~~that~~-process command.